

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A microparticle comprising:
 - (a) a core which comprises a water insoluble polymer or copolymer, and
 - (b) a shell which comprises a hydrophilic polymer or copolymer and functional groups which are ionic or ionisable;said microparticle having a disease-associated antigen adsorbed at the external surface.
2. (Original) A microparticle according to claim 1, wherein the disease-associated antigen is a microbial antigen or a cancer-associated antigen.
3. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the water insoluble polymer is poly(styrene).
4. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the water insoluble polymer is poly(methylmethacrylate).
5. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is hemisuccinated polyvinylalcohol.
6. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to ~~any one of claims claim 1 to 4~~, wherein the hydrophilic copolymer is Eudragit® L100-55 (a copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethyl acrylate).
7. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the particle has a maximum size of from 0.1 to 10µm.
8. (Currently Amended) A microparticle according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the antigen is a human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) antigen.

9. (Original) A microparticle according to claim 8, wherein the antigen is HIV-1 Tat protein (SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 or 32) or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of production of a microparticle according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, said method comprising:

(a) polymerizing one or more water insoluble monomers in the presence of one or more hydrophilic polymer by dispersion polymerization to form microparticles; and

(b) adsorbing a disease-associated antigen at the external surface of said microparticles.

11. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a microparticle according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of generating an immune response in an individual, said method comprising administering a microparticle according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 9 ~~or a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11~~ in a therapeutically effective amount.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein the antigen is a human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) antigen and the microparticle is administered to the individual to prevent of preventing or treat treating HIV infection or AIDS, ~~said method comprising administering a microparticle according to claim 8 or 9 in a therapeutically effective amount.~~

14-16. (Canceled).